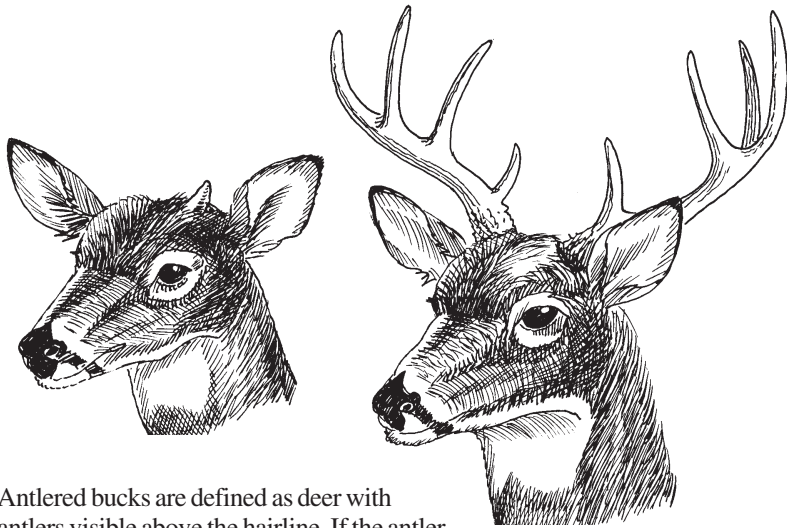


Antlered or Antlerless?

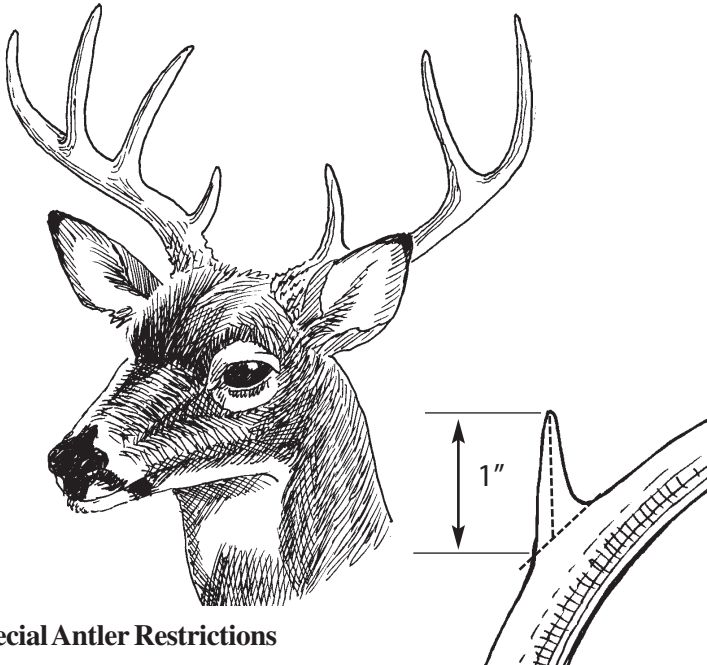
Hunters are sometimes confused about whether a deer they killed should be tagged with an either sex tag (commonly called a “buck tag”) or an antlerless only deer tag. This confusion often occurs when the antler is barely visible or the pedicels are visible.



Antlered bucks are defined as deer with antlers visible above the hairline. If the antler is breaking the skin and protruding above the hairline the deer is considered an antlered deer and must be tagged with an either sex deer tag.



Shed Bucks are often harvested late in the season. These are bucks that have dropped their antlers and only the pedicel or bony base is left on the skull and is usually flush with the hairline. A shed buck is an antlerless deer and is tagged with an either-sex deer tag or an antlerless deer tag.



Button bucks or a male deer fawns will have bumps or knobs, known as the pedicels, where the antlers will grow but the bumps or knobs do not break the skin or protrude above the skin. The skin is covering the entire pedicel. These look like buttons on the deer's head thus the term button bucks. Button bucks are considered antlerless deer and are tagged with an either-sex deer tag or an antlerless deer tag.

Special Antler Restrictions

Shenandoah County

If a hunter kills two bucks in Shenandoah County, at least one of the bucks must have at least 4 antler points, 1 inch or longer, on one side.

Fairystone and Featherfin WMAs

On the Quality Deer Management Area of the Fairystone WMA and Featherfin WMA a legal buck is a deer with at least 4 antler points, 1 inch or longer, on either the right or left antler.

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